

17-035  
November 1, 2017

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NOV 06 2017

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 W Jefferson St., 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

Attn: Mike Constantino

Springfield, IL 62761

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dear Sirs,

I wish to add my voice to those in the Rochelle area that are in favor of an additional nursing home/extended care facility. My Mom lived with us for 10 years. She passed away on 3/17/17 at the age of 96. We have used Rochelle West and San Gabriel when we went on vacations. Then earlier this year she developed pneumonia and needed a place after her hospital stay.

I chose to take her out of the county and go to Franklin Grove. She had dementia and needed more care than Rochelle West and San Gabriel was equipped or able to help with.

Please consider the need in our area for senior care facilities so those of us that have a need can keep our loved ones closer to home. And cut the need to travel such a distance as that limits the time we visit our loved ones. With more of us "baby boomers", there will be need for more senior care facilities. And with dementia and Alzheimer's on the increase, it is crucial to have adequate facilities to be available to meet the need.

My comment about job openings is that where there are jobs, the people will apply. When I worked at NIU, there were people that traveled over an hour to get to work. The health care facilities charge enough money that they should be able to pay a living wage to their help. Perhaps cut the profits a bit to provide quality care. If a facility cannot find qualified personnel, maybe they should look at their own facility and ask why.

Sincerely,



LaRonda Thuestad

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Rochelle, IL 61068